

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/072,915	SUGITA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Christopher R. Magee	2653	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 2/22/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 02/22/2005 has been entered.
2. The reply filed 02/22/2005 was applied to the following effect: All relevant objections and rejections are withdrawn as being satisfied.

### *Reasons for Allowance*

3. Claims 1 and 3-9 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

This application is for an OPEN AND CLOSE MECHANISM FOR A RECORDING MEDIUM INSERTION PATH.

- **Claim 1** specifies an open and close mechanism for inserting a recording medium into a medium container, which requires:

*“a locking device for locking an open and close operation of the open and close device, whether or not the recording medium is provided in the medium container, when the open and close device closes the recording medium insertion path, and maintains a condition of locking the open and close operation when an external force, other than an opening force provided by the driving device, acts on the open and close device”*

Inoue (US 6,404,720 B1) does not teach, show or suggest a locking device for locking an open and close operation of the open and close device, whether or not the recording medium is provided in the medium container, when the open and close device closes the recording medium insertion path, and maintains a condition of locking the open and close operation when an external force, other than an opening force provided by the driving device, acts on the open and close device as claimed in the present invention.

Therefore, these features, in combination with other features of claim 1, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the closest prior art of record of Inoue '720.

- **Claim 3** specifies an open and close mechanism for inserting a recording medium into a medium container, which requires:

*“wherein the locking device maintains a condition of locking the open and close operation when an external force, other than an opening force provided by the driving device, acts on the open and close device”*

Inoue (US 6,404,720 B1) does not teach, show or suggest the locking device maintains a condition of locking the open and close operation when an external force, other than an opening force provided by the driving device, acts on the open and close device as claimed in the present invention.

Kusumi (US 6,690,528 B1) does not show a locking device for locking open and close operation of the open and close device when the open and close device closes the recording medium insertion path wherein the locking device does not exert a driving force for operating the open and close device

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Therefore, these features, in combination with other features of claim 3, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the closest prior art of record of Inoue '720 and/or Kusumi '528.

- **Claim 4** specifies an open and close mechanism for a recording medium insertion path, which requires:

*“a cam member being rotated together with the door gear by the driving device when the driving device rotates the door gear; a convex portion projecting toward the pivot shaft from the cam member; and a concave portion formed concavely on an outer surface of the pivot shaft, wherein the convex portion goes into the concave portion to lock the open and close door rotating about the center of the pivot shaft when the open and close door closing the recording medium insertion path, wherein the cam member rotates together with the door gear for moving the convex portion in the concave portion and getting the same out the concave portion to allow the open and close door rotating about the center of the pivot shaft when the door gear is rotated by the driving device.”*

Neither Kusumi '528 and/or Inoue '720 teach or suggest as claimed in the present invention. Therefore, these features, in combination with other features of claim 4, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record of Kusumi '528 and/or Inoue '720.

- **Claim 5** specifies an apparatus, which requires:

*“wherein the lock comprises a cam that rotates with the gear when the gear is driven to rotate.”*

Inoue (US 6,404,720 B1) does not teach, show or suggest the lock comprises a cam that rotates with the gear when the gear is driven to rotate as claimed in the present invention.

Kusumi (US 6,690,528 B1) does not teach, show or suggest the lock comprises a cam that rotates with the gear when the gear is driven to rotate as claimed in the present invention.

Therefore, these features, in combination with other features of claim 5, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the closest prior art of record of Inoue '720 and/or Kusumi '528.

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- **Claim 8** specifies an apparatus, which requires:

*“wherein the lock does not exert a driving force to move the door to the open position or the closed position.”*

Inoue (US 6,404,720 B1) does not teach, show or suggest the lock does not exert a driving force to move the door to the open position or the closed position as claimed in the present invention.

Kusumi (US 6,690,528 B1) does not teach, show or suggest the lock does not exert a driving force to move the door to the open position or the closed position as claimed in the present invention.

Therefore, these features, in combination with other features of claim 8, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the closest prior art of record of Inoue ‘720 and/or Kusumi ‘528

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

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*Conclusion*

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R. Magee whose telephone number is (571) 272-7592. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8: 00 am-5: 30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

3/21/2005



Christopher R. Magee  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2653

CRM



CRAIG A. RENNER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER